

is generically different from the American genus *Lepidosiren*, and whether the generic name *Protopterus* proposed by Owen for the *Lepidosiren annectens* should be restored or not.

*On the African Musk, Moschus aquaticus, Ogilby.*

Some time ago Mr. Ogilby, in the Proceedings of the Zoological Society for 1840, described an animal in the collection of the Earl of Derby under the name of *Moschus aquaticus*, which was very interesting as being an African species of a genus which had hitherto only been found in Asia and its islands. The general form and colouring of the animal are so similar to that of the Mouse Deer, or *Traguli*, from Java, Ceylon, and India, that it was natural it should be placed with them in the same genus. But the Earl of Derby having kindly sent a specimen with its skull to the British Museum, the examination of the bones of the head have at once proved, that instead of being a species of an Asiatic genus, it is the type of a peculiar genus as yet only found in Africa, and therefore not, as has hitherto been thought, an exception in the geographic distribution of Mammalia.

The skull is short with short broad nasal bones, which are dilated and rather truncated behind; the intermaxillaries are also short and truncated behind, not extended behind the base of the upper canines. The ear-bones are large, vesicular, and produced beyond the surface of the bones of the skull, while in the genus *Moschus* the nasal bones are narrow, linear-elongate, and produced nearly to the front edge of the orbit; the intermaxillaries are large, dilated behind, and produced behind between the maxillaries and the front of the nasal bones, and the ear-bones are small and inclosed in the base of the skull: from these characters and the pig-like habit of the animal, I propose to form for it a genus under the name of *Hyemoschus*. The skull is much more like that of the genus *Tragulus* than of *Moschus*, as it agrees with it in the large size and vesicular form of the ear-bones; but the *Traguli* are easily known from the *Hyemoschi* by the large size and triangular form of the hinder part of their intermaxillaries, which reach to the nasals and form the front part of the cheek in these animals.

1. *MOSCHUS*.—Nasal bones linear-elongate; ear-bones small, inclosed; intermaxillaries large, produced behind, narrow, and extended far beyond the base of the upper canines. *M. moschiferus*, *M. leucogaster*, *M. chrysogaster*.

2. *TRAGULUS*.—Nasal bones elongate, rather dilated and truncated behind; ear-bones large, vesicular; intermaxillaries large, triangular, broad, oblique, truncated behind, hardly produced beyond the base of the upper canines between the maxillaries and the nasal bones. *T. javanica*, *T. Stanleyanus* (*M. ecaudatus*, Temm. MSS.).

3. *HYEMOSCHUS*.—Nasal bones short, dilated, and truncated behind. Ear-bones large, vesicular; intermaxillaries small, short, scarcely dilated behind on the front of the maxillaries, and not extended beyond the base of the upper canines. *H. aquaticus*.—J. E. GRAY.